

60-4756

31 AUG 1960

STAT  
128/112

*card*  
Captain Rufus L. Taylor, USN  
United States Naval Institute  
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Rufe:

Mr. Dulles has asked me to thank you very much for sending him a copy of the United States Naval Institute Proceedings.

Your courtesy in bringing the article, "Command and the Intelligence Process" to his attention is indeed appreciated. I might say that he looked it over with much interest.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Executive Officer

O/DCI/[ ]:bak(30 Aug. 60)

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ER 60-5858/a

16 AUG 1960

✓  
Admiral Arleigh A. Burke  
Chief of Naval Operations  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Arleigh:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your reply  
to Admiral Berkner's letter. I am enclosing a  
copy of my answer for your information.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

Enclosure

O/DCI/ ☐ :bak(9 Aug. 60)

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE Navy)



CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

28 July 1960

Dear Allen:

I noticed that my good friend, Lloyd Berkner, sent you a copy of his letter to Dr. Kistiakowsky and I am therefore sending a copy of my reply.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

ARLEIGH BURKE

The Honorable  
Allen Dulles  
Director of Central Intelligence Agency

Enclosure



CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

AD/NE

22

AD/EL  
26

Dear Admiral Berkner:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your very interesting letter of 15 July 1960 to Dr. George Kistiakowsky.

It is reassuring to know that distinguished reserve officers of your caliber are so fully aware of the growing threat to this wonderful country of ours and are so vitally interested in assuring themselves that our leadership is not overlooking any possibilities in this mortal struggle in which we are now engaged. If we could only breed into all of our people the interest, awareness, and willingness to act that your letter so clearly reflects, our national character would assert itself more positively before a doubtful, uneasy, and watching world.

Certainly there is much merit in your comment that no great nation can afford to take less than minimum measures to gird itself for the struggle that is forecast by even the most pessimistic estimate of its future. I couldn't agree with you more. However, in this present conflict, military force alone will not redress a balance of power that is lost on other fronts — on the economic, political, and psychological fronts. It has not in the past; it will not in the future. For more than a decade, while the US possessed unchallengeable and overwhelming atomic and nuclear military power, our national policies, based on the invalid concept of massive retaliation for minimum provocation, failed to halt the relentless progress of the communist menace. The enemy nibbled away at the Free World, subverting its weaker and underdeveloped members, draining its strength, and weakening its conviction, while keeping the level of provocation sufficiently low to avoid triggering our massive retaliation. Now that we are moving into the era of so-called "nuclear stalemate", there is even less chance that our military power alone will be able to stem this relentless wave of communist victories on the political, economic and psychological fronts. As a matter of fact, it has become abundantly clear during the past few years, and particularly during the past few months, that this apparent new relationship in the military power balance has become the primary psychological weapon in an accelerated communist offensive against the Free World. Just as the Soviets raised the threshold of war in the Taiwan Strait and Lebanon situations, by pledging military support they knew they wouldn't have to give, so now in the Cuban and Congo situations they are again raising the threshold of war in order to intimidate us — to make us hesitate to take too strong a stand lest we, the United States, be responsible

DCI's Ltr  
to  
Adm Burke

for general war. Although they have as much or more to lose in an all-out nuclear exchange, they are striving to force upon us a preoccupation with general war in order to paralyze our decision-making process and thus thwart effective counter-action to their probes.

Our defense against this type of warfare cannot rest on military power alone. Military deterrence capabilities, across the board, are certainly essential to our defense and survival -- but they are not sufficient in themselves! Other elements of our national power -- political, economic, scientific and cultural -- backed up by a forceful national character and will to win that spring from our spiritual values and our fundamental beliefs and convictions as free men, are no less important. And it is in this area that our people must recognize the challenge and rise to it.

In emphasizing the non-military aspects of the communist challenge, I do not for one moment underestimate the formidable military threat posed by the enormous scientific and technological advance of the Soviets. I assure you, their present and potential offensive -- and defensive -- military capabilities resulting from these achievements are subjects of dominant importance and continuing review. Believe me, we live with this problem 24-hours a day.

However, I don't mean we can't stand a little prodding now and then to keep us on our toes. No group in authority is omniscient or infallible. Whenever any nation's leadership presumes to have attained the qualities of omniscience and infallibility, that nation is in for real trouble. That's why letters such as yours are always welcome, for they remind us of the vital necessity to review, reappraise, and re-evaluate our estimates and our policies in the face of a rapidly changing world.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

ARLETON BURKE

L. V. Berkner, RADM (USNR)  
President Associated Universities, Inc.  
10 Columbus Circle  
New York 19, New York

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*cored*  
Admiral Arleigh A. Burke  
Chief of Naval Operations  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Arleigh:

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to Admiral Berkner's letter. I am enclosing a  
copy of my answer for your information.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

Enclosure

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16 AUG 1960

Rear Admiral L. V. Berkner (USNR)  
President, Associated Universities, Inc.  
10 Columbus Circle  
New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Admiral Berkner:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 15 July to Dr. George Kistiakowsky.

I have read your letter with great interest and have discussed it with interested members of my staff. It is a pleasure to receive such thoughtful communications and reassuring to know that people such as you are so aware of the serious problems which confront us today.

Let me assure you that we recognize fully the seriousness of what the Soviet leaders may be up to at this time, and we have never excluded the possibility of radical military preparations. So long as they are obsessed with secrecy, it is simply prudent for us to assume that they have something worth hiding.

We have been reporting regularly to the National Security Council on this subject and we shall, of course, continue to do so.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

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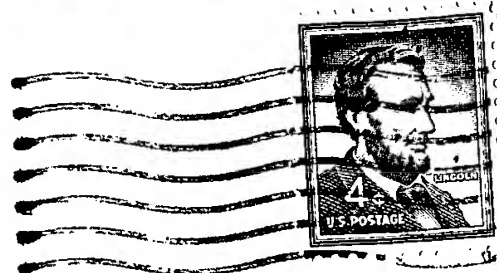
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CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON



The Honorable  
Allen Dulles  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Agency  
Washington, D. C.